

AFI 3679

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

YAMAMOTO, Shusuke et al.

Group Art Unit: 3679

Serial No.: 09/688,837

Examiner: FERGUSON, Michael P.

Filed: October 17, 2000

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 1853

For. PIN CONNECTION STRUCTURE AND METHOD OF CONNECTING  
MEMBERS BY PIN

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(d)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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APR 26 2004

**GROUP 3600**

Attn: Group Director

April 21, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

Documents AF was cited in the European Office Action dated January 21, 2004. A copy of the Office Action is also attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the mailing of a final action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee.

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement and was

known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

A check is attached hereto which covers the \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this Statement to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS, HANSON & BROOKS, LLP

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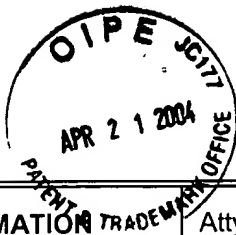
Atty. Docket No. 001358  
Suite 1000, 1725 K Street, N.W.  
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Dwh/nk



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO 1449; Office Action; 1 Reference; Check for \$180.00



INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE  
CITATION  
PTO-1449

Atty. Docket No. 001358

Serial No. 09/688,837

Applicant(s): Shusuke Yamamoto

Filing Date: 10/17/2000

Group Art Unit: 3679

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA					
_____	AB					
_____	AC					
_____	AD					
_____	AE					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____ AF 1,536,885	9/15/1967	FR	no, see European office action
_____ AG			
_____ AH			
_____ AI			
_____ AJ			

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OTHER DOCUMENTS

_____ AK	European Office Action dated 1/21/04		
_____ AL			

GROUP 3600

Examiner

Date Considered